

City of Chichester.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

**HEALTH OF THE CITY OF CHICHESTER FOR
THE YEAR 1920,**

BY

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Medical Officer of Health,

AND


THE REPORT

OF

THE SANITARY AND HOUSING INSPECTOR.

CHICHESTER :

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City of Chichester.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CHICHESTER,

March, 1921.

*To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the City of Chichester.*

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the City, and the work carried out in the Health Department for the year 1920.

Acting upon the suggestions of the Ministry of Health contained in Memo. 40/Int., I have arranged my Report under the following heads:—

- A.—Natural and Social Conditions of the District.
 - B.—Sanitary Circumstances of the District.
 - C.—Food.
 - D.—Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.
 - E.—Maternity and Child Welfare.
 - F.—Sanitary Administration.
 - G.—Other Services.
 - H.—Housing.
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A.—Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The City may be said, generally, to be lying on a plain slightly lower than the surrounding districts. On the north and the north-east are the South Down Hills, to the south, east and west is the Sea. The acreage of the City is 1,538.

The upper soil is chiefly of the nature of loam to a depth from 2 to 3 feet, beneath this is to be found gravel to a depth of 20 feet or more, in some places more porous than others, beneath this again is to be found clay from 90 to 100 feet.

The population of the City at the last census was 12,591.

The estimated population of the City at the end of 1920 may be said to be 12,200, but for the purpose of ascertaining the birth rate and death rate the Registrār-General estimates the population as follows:—11,893 for the birth rate, and 11,559 for the death rate.

The births registered for the year numbered 308, and the corrected births numbered 289, comprised of 150 males and 139 females; this gives 24·3 per 1,000, as compared with 25·4 per 1,000 population for the whole of England and Wales.

The total number of deaths registered in the City for the year numbered 225, made up as follows:—

West Sussex County Mental Hospital	...	...	29
Nursing Homes	...	...	5
Royal West Sussex Hospital	...	...	47
Workhouse Infirmary	...	...	23
Isolation Hospital	...	...	4
Inquests	...	...	14
The Barracks	...	...	1
Other deaths in private houses	...	...	102
Total			225

Of this total 85 were non-residents, therefore the deaths of residents belonging to the City for the year numbered 140; to this has to be added the non-residents transferable to the City, which are 8, giving the corrected number of deaths as 148, and so the death rate for the City is 12·8 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 12·4 per 1,000 for the whole of England and Wales.

The following is a summary of the deaths of civilians only belonging to the City, and the cause of death:—

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.
Enteric Fever	1	0
Diphtheria and Croup	2	1
Influenza	0	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases	0	1

Cause of Death.					Males.	Females.
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	13	14
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	1	0
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	0	2
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	7	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	6	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	3	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	3
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	1	0
Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	...	1	0
Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	1	0
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	3	2
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	2
Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	1
Congenital Debility, etc.	...	...	...	...	2	4
Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	0	1
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	27	21
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	0	1
Total					75	73

The City is chiefly a residential district, but there are connected with it many important Institutions, namely:—The Bishop Otter College, the Barracks, the Royal West Sussex Hospital, Workhouse, and the West Sussex County Mental Hospital.

The outlying parts are chiefly agricultural, whilst the more important trades carried on within the City, include:—Building, Tailoring, Dressmaking, Steam and Hand Laundry Works, Dye Works, a Tannery, Wool Sorters, Potted Meat and Sausage Factory, Printing Works, Brewery, Mineral Water Manufactory, and Gas and Electric Light Works.

The City is divided into three Wards—South, East and West.

Particulars of the Poor Law Relief are at regular intervals sent to the Ministry of Health by the Poor Law Authorities.

The Workhouse has an average of 75 inmates—Females 32, Males 36, and 7 Children; but an average of 39 of these belong to the Westhampnett Union. All the Children in the Workhouse are now transferred to separate Homes, one at Lavant, a distance of about two miles. There is accommodation for about 21 Children, but only 20 are at the Home at present.

The Royal West Sussex Hospital contains 100 beds, with an extensive Out-patient department, and a thoroughly up-to-date Operating Theatre, together with an Ophthalmic, Aural and X-Ray department.

METEOROLOGY.

It is to be regretted that there is not a Meteorological Station in the City; I trust the time is not far distant when we shall be fully equipped in this direction. I, however, give below a record of the rainfall taken from the "Chichester Observer."

					1919		1920
January	...	...	...	...	6.47	...	3.98
February	...	...	...	...	2.55	...	.45
March	...	...	...	...	5.23	...	2.77
April	...	...	...	...	2.08	...	2.80
May...	...	...	...	...	.61	...	1.16
June	...	...	...	...	.83	...	2.29
July	...	...	...	...	1.41	...	5.40
August	...	...	...	...	3.09	...	1.09
September	...	...	...	...	1.25	...	.86
October	...	...	...	...	.58	...	3.43
November	...	...	...	...	2.45	...	1.63
December	...	...	...	...	5.85	...	3.34
Total inches				...	32.40	...	31.20

B.—Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

The City derives its water supply from a well 104 feet deep, situated at Fishbourne, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant from the City, and here, also is situated the City Water Works. The supply is constant and sufficient. The analysis of the water shows it to be of excellent quality. The water is not liable to plumbosolvent action. There are no forms of contamination.

There are 60 houses in the City with supply of water for domestic purposes from a local well only. Every opportunity is taken to get owners of property to lay on the Corporation water.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Lavant takes the following course:—entering the City at St. James', flows behind the houses in St. Pancras, down Market Road, crosses South Street at Southgate, where it divides and passes into open courses to Appledram, and thence to Chichester Harbour.

THE CANAL AND BASIN.

Very little of the Canal is in the City, approximately a quarter of a mile, and after a course of $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles enters Chichester Harbour.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

The Chichester Sewage Disposal Works are situated at Appledram, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles south-west of the City.

The total area of the works is about $10\frac{1}{2}$ acres. All the crude sewage is screened and treated in precipitation tanks of about half-a-million gallons capacity. Lime is used as the precipitant.

After tank treatment, the clarified tank effluent is pumped on to six Bacteria filters fitted with revolving sprinklers. The oldest one is driven by electric motors, on a bed 200 feet in diameter. The five new ones, each 100 feet in diameter, are driven by the reaction of tank effluent from the orifices in the distributing arms. All these filters are giving satisfactory service.

In addition to these filters, there are four small shallow filters, and about an acre of land, which are used for excessive storm flows.

The whole of the effluent passes through the tidal tank before being discharged into Chichester Harbour. The outlet valve from this tank is only opened during the ebb tide.

MORTUARY.

There is no Public Mortuary in the City at present.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Water closets form the chief method of disposal, but privies are still in existence. Some houses are still unconnected with the main drainage, and drain into cesspools; wherever this is found to exist every effort is made to connect with the main drainage of the City.

A privy pit is one of the greatest sources of danger that it is possible for any, otherwise healthy house, to possess; not only is the accumulation of filth unhealthy in itself, but the breeding of flies which convey the filth to food; and the surrounding soil becomes saturated, owing to the very defective way in which these pits are always constructed. During the year 7 privies or cesspools were abolished and have been converted to the water carriage system.

Since the year 1912, 62 houses previously having privies, earth closet or cesspool drainage have been connected with the Council's sewer.

At the present time there are 50 houses in the City not connected with the sewerage system; 28 of which cannot be connected, there being no sewer in the road, and 1 house is

situated in a disused gravel pit and is too low to be connected. There are only 12 privy pits or earth closets in existence in the City, and out of this number the owners of 7 houses have been communicated with to connect the property to the sewer.

SCAVENGING.

House Refuse is daily collected by the Corporation's carts in the main streets, and twice weekly, from the bye streets, and taken up to the Refuse tip, situated at the far eastern part of the City, and daily covered with a foot of soil. I advise that the carts should be covered and also that every house should be provided with a covered galvanised iron receptacle.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Number of Inspections, 732.

Nature of Inspections—General Sanitary Defects.

Notices served in 1920 :—

(a) Informal	...	...	...	145
(b) Statutory	...	...	...	Nil
				—
Total			...	145
				—

Result of services of notices, including notices issued in previous years :—

(a) Remedied	...	...	...	107
(b) Not remedied	...	...	...	20
(c) In Hand	...	...	...	27
				—
Total			...	154
				—

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

One Knackers Yard only, which is situated at the eastern end of the old City, and is conducted satisfactorily.

There are no underground Sleeping Rooms.

There are three Offensive Trades : (1) a Fellmonger in Tower Street ; (2) a Tannery at Westgate ; (3) a Bone Boiler, which is connected with the above mentioned Knackers yard ; these are all well conducted.

There are two Common Lodging Houses in the district which are regularly inspected, and are well conducted.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.

There is nothing to report under this heading.

SCHOOLS.

The Elementary Schools in the City number 10, with an average of 2,200 scholars.

The Sanitary arrangements of these Schools, generally may be said to be satisfactory, all are connected with the main drainage, and supplied with town water.

Owing to the prevalence of Measles amongst the children at the Portfield Infants' School the School Medical Officer closed the School from the 2nd to the 20th of June, and on account of cases of Diphtheria the Lancastrian Boys' School was closed by the School Medical Officer from November the 4th to the 14th, inclusive.

 C.—Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

The Milk Shops and Dairies may be said, generally, to be kept in good order.

The Milk supply to the City is obtained partly from cows kept within the district, and partly from cows kept in the surrounding rural areas.

There are 18 Dairies, Purveyors of Milk and Cowkeepers in the City. These are kept under constant supervision, and are maintained in a cleanly and sanitary condition.

The Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917, do not apply to this area.

The Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918, is administered through the Maternity and Child Welfare centre under the control of the West Sussex County Council.

(b) OTHER FOODS.

Premises where food is stored or exposed for sale are visited at frequent intervals. A list of food surrendered to the Sanitary Inspector is included in his report attached.

There are 22 Bakehouses in the City, which have been visited at frequent intervals; on nine occasions it was found necessary to whitewash and cleanse.

There is no regular Meat Inspection.

The following table shows the number of Slaughter-houses in use in the City at the dates mentioned:—

			In 1914.	In Jan., 1920.	In Dec., 1920.
Registered	...	...	8	8	7
Licensed	...	...	3	3	3
			—	—	—
Total	...	...	11	11	10
			—	—	—

GOVERNMENT AUTHORISED SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

I wish to draw the attention of the Council again this year to that portion of the Sanitary Inspector's Report dealing with the Government Authorised Slaughter-house in Chichester, and it is with regret I have to report that the control of Meat came to an end on June 30th last with the consequent closing of the Slaughter-house, which, as I reported last year, was the first occasion in which the country has had a practical demonstration of the urgent necessity of slaughtering all Cattle, etc., for human food in Public Abattoirs under proper supervision.

The figures given by Mr. Nash last year and also six months of this year, of the slaughtering carried out and the diseased meat dealt with, was so convincing that I was in hope something permanent would have resulted from the successful work carried out during the war.

I however believe the Ministry of Health has set up a Committee to enquire into this matter.

(c) SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The Public Analyst is Mr. Otto Hehner. The following samples were purchased by the Inspector of Food and Drugs, for the West Sussex County Council under the Food and Drugs Act, for Analysis by the Public Analyst during the year, 1920.

Description.	No.	Result of Analysis.		
		Genuine.		Otherwise.
New Milk	13	...	13	0
Separated	1	...	1	0
Pepper	2	...	1	*1
Butter	1	...	1	0
Liquid Extract of Bark ...	1	...	1	0
Antimonial Wine ...	1	...	1	0
Sal Volatile	1	...	1	0
Tincture of Nux Vomica	1	...	1	0
Red Mercury Ointment ...	1	...	1	0
Liquid Bismuth	1	...	1	0
Eucalyptus Oil	1	...	1	0
Camphorated Oil	1	...	1	0
Total	25	...	24	1

* Contained an admixture of ground shell.

D.—Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

The number of notifications during the year amounted to 167, excluding Tuberculosis which will be treated under a separate heading.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eleven cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and which occurred between the following age periods :

1 to 5 age period	...	...	...	Nil
5 to 15	„	...	...	8 Cases
15 to 25	„	...	...	2 „
25 to 45	„	...	...	1 „
Total				11 „

The cases were distributed among the following Wards :

East Ward	...	...	...	3 Cases
South Ward	...	...	...	7 „
West Ward	...	...	...	1 „

It is satisfactory to report that no return cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred.

DIPHTHERIA.

Diphtheria accounted for 38 notifications. The cases occurred between the following age periods :

1 to 5 age period	...	...	...	4 Cases
5 to 15	„	...	...	25 „
15 to 25	„	...	...	7 „
25 to 45	„	...	...	2 „
Total				38 „

The cases were distributed among the following Wards :

East Ward	...	...	...	7 Cases
South Ward	...	...	...	8 „
West Ward	...	...	...	23 „

With 2 exceptions all cases of Diphtheria were treated in the Isolation Hospital. Anti-toxin being administered immediately upon admission. The dose varying with the severity of the case and the age of the patient.

No case of Encephalitis Lethargica has been notified during the year.

Upon receipt of notifications of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria the Sanitary Inspector in addition to the Medical Officer of Health visits each house and makes a thorough inspection of the premises, and at the houses where Diphtheria has occurred the drains are tested with chemicals. Full particulars of each case are taken and recorded in the Register. Where there are

children in the house attending School I have arranged with the Sanitary Inspector to notify the Head Teachers of Schools concerned, so as to prevent contacts returning to School within the required period of absence.

When a case is removed to the Isolation Hospital the premises are disinfected at once by Formalin Fumigation, and in cases of Scarlet Fever the room occupied by the patient is completely re-decorated. If not removed to the Isolation Hospital the disinfection is carried out at the termination of the case.

In all cases the bedding is now removed for steam disinfection.

TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS).

Twenty-six cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (8 of which belong to the Sussex County Mental Hospital) were notified also 11 notifications of other forms of Tuberculosis have been received.

The 26 cases Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified occurred between the following ages :

1 to 5 age period	...	...	...	Nil
5 to 15	„	...	...	Nil
15 to 25	„	...	...	4 Cases
25 to 45	„	...	...	13 „
45 to 65	„	...	...	7 „
Over 65	...	...	...	2 „
Total				26 „

The 11 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified occurred between the following ages :

1 to 5 age period	...	...	...	4 Cases
5 to 15	„	...	...	3 „
15 to 25	„	...	...	2 „
25 to 45	„	...	...	1 „
45 to 65	„	...	...	Nil
Total				11

Where possible after removal and always at death infected premises are disinfected and re-decorated.

A register is kept by the Medical Officer of Health which is in his custody only.

Ten cases of Typhoid Fever have been notified during the year, 1 occurring at the West Sussex County Mental Hospital. No cases of Typhoid Fever belonging to the City have been

notified since 1911 until this year. In the 9 cases belonging to the City, careful inquiries were made and the history in each case showed that the patients had been eating Cockles which were obtained from the adjoining district. The Medical Officer of Health for that area was notified and the Fish Retailers and Hawkers in the City were warned against selling them.

Six cases of Erysipelas were notified, but were all of a mild type. Two cases were sent into the Isolation Hospital.

No notifications were received of any cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

PNEUMONIA, MALARIA, DYSENTERY, AND TRENCH FEVER.

(i). *Pneumonia*. There have been 18 cases of Pneumonia notified during the year. The Medical Practitioners in the City sent these cases into the Isolation Hospital where there was not suitable accommodation at home.

(ii). *Malaria*. Two cases have been notified and treated by their own Medical Attendant.

(iii). *Dysentery and Trench Fever*. No cases of either of these diseases have been notified during the year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

All contacts and possible carriers of Diphtheria have throat swabs taken and examined bacteriologically and if found Positive are admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Non-notifiable acute infectious diseases such as Chicken Pox, Whooping Cough and Mumps, are kept under observation as far as possible, and the information received from the Master or Mistress of Schools is acted upon as occasion arises.

With regard to Influenza there has been no epidemic since 1918. In December, 1919, upon receipt of the Memorandum of the Ministry of Health, a letter was sent to each Medical Practitioner together with the Ministry's Memorandum, informing them that a stock of Influenza Vaccine with instructions for its use could be obtained at any moment upon application to the Medical Officer of Health. A special report upon this matter was sent to the Ministry of Health during the last quarter of the year.

There has been no occasion to enforce the Regulations as to the notification of Tuberculosis as all cases are notified.

Tuberculosis, Venereal Disease and Small Pox, are controlled by the West Sussex County Council.

With regard to the latter there have been no primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations by the Medical Officer of Health.

In January last a case of Anthrax occurred in the City and from information obtained it was proved that the infection was from using a Japanese Shaving Brush purchased from a retailer in the City, upon my instructions the Sanitary Inspector obtained all the brushes of a similar nature from the retailer, and samples of which were sent to the Chief Health Officer, Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, for examination and found to be infected. The brushes obtained were therefore immediately destroyed. The Sanitary Inspector and myself also visited all the shops in the City where Shaving Brushes were sold and inspected their stocks, and warned all retailers of dealing with the class of brush in question. The brushes destroyed were purchased from a wholesaler at Portsmouth, and the Medical Officer of Health for that district was notified. The patient was a Sailor in the Royal Navy and was removed for treatment to the Royal Naval Hospital at Haslar. The bacteriological examination carried out by the Pathologist of the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, showed that it was a genuine case of Anthrax.

E.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

The administrator of the Midwives Act, 1920 is not governed by the Sanitary Authority.

The visiting under the Notifications of Births Act, 1907 and 1915, is carried out by the West Sussex County Council.

There has been no case of Puerperal Fever notified during the year.

There have been four cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the year. The details of the cases are as follows :—

Both eyes affected in each case.

Eyes not permanently injured but complete recovery.

MEASLES.

78 cases of Measles were notified. There being no Female Health Visitor employed in my department, the work of investigation and advice has been carried out by myself and the Sanitary Inspector.

Acting upon my recommendation the Council applied to the Ministry of Health for a Local Order, making all cases of Measles and German Measles a notifiable disease in the City, which application was approved and the Order made on the 24th of April, 1920, for a period of 12 months.

The suspension of the notification of Measles as ordered by the Ministry of Health early in the year was in my opinion unfortunate. There is evidence that notification must have appreciably stopped the spread of the disease by allowing my department to take early action, owing to the fact that I have more complete information of the number of cases than I had previously.

It has enabled me to arrange for each case to be visited and to urge the desirability of isolation and of medical assistance, and to arrange for a Nurse at the Isolation Hospital to visit the home in cases where a Doctor is not in attendance. All of which must tend to reduce the mortality of the disease.

There were no fatal cases from Measles or its complications.

Cases of Pneumonia, associated with measles, having no suitable home accommodation, I have arranged to be admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

The system has worked well, and satisfactory results have been obtained.

There was no Epidemic Diarrhœa.

F.—Sanitary Administration.

(1).—The Staff of the Health Department comprises :

- (i) The Medical Officer of Health.
- (ii) The Sanitary and Housing Inspector.
- (iii) A Clerk.

(2). HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Isolation Hospital is situated in the north-east part of the City; there are separate blocks for Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, and accommodation is provided for Enteric Fever and Pneumonia, associated with Influenza or Measles, also Cerebro-spinal Fever. The total number of beds in the Hospital is 28. The Administrative block is separate from the main building, and in it is living accommodation for the Matron and Staff, there is sufficient accommodation in this block for extra nurses if required. An Ambulance carriage is also kept in the Hospital.

The Staff consists of :

The Matron.

Staff Nurse (certificated).

Three Probationers, who are given a certificate after two years' satisfactory service.

My special report, dated May, 1918, to the Ministry of Health, at their request, in which I mentioned the desirability of an additional block or two for other infectious diseases which it had been undertaken to treat was carefully considered by the Council, and was postponed on account of present expense.

The Steam Disinfector installed at the Isolation Hospital has proved of great service during the year, and several private disinfections have been carried out.

The number of cases admitted during the year number 79.

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	11
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	39
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	5
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	6
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria Carriers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cases for observation	...	...	...	...	...	9
						<hr/> 79

One case of Diphtheria proved fatal, also one case of Pneumonia and one case of Enteric Fever.

The average stay in Hospital of all patients 20.31 days.

The average stay in Hospital of the Scarlet Fever patients was 38.45 days.

The average stay in Hospital of the Diphtheria patients was 18.52 days.

The average stay in Hospital of the Pneumonia patients was 10.80 days.

The average stay in Hospital of the Enteric Fever patients was 44.33 days.

The Medical Officer has paid 251 visits to the Hospital.

(3). LOCAL ACTS, ETC.

The Corporation own the following by virtue of Local Acts :—

The Waterworks, The Markets and the Canal.

Adoptive Acts are as follows :—

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 ; parts 3, 4 and 5.

The Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Local Orders :—

The City of Chichester (Measles and German Measles) Regulations 1920.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

With regard to the Memorandum of the Local Government Board, dated the 26th May, 1919, concerning the Rag Flock Act, 1911. No contravention of this Act has occurred in this area.

RABIES ORDER.

The Local Government Board issued a Memorandum in April, 1919, relating to the above Order. No cases of Rabies occurred in the City, and no Muzzling Order was in force.

(4). CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

Dr. Galt, of the "Stephen Ralli" Memorial Laboratory, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, has done all the Bacteriological work required, and during the year the following examinations were made by him with the annexed results :—

		Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria	...	26	187	213
Enteric Fever	...	5	3	8
Tubercle	...	1	8	9
Malaria	...	0	1	1
Totals	...	32	199	231

There is no report from the Public Analyst except that referred to under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

G.—Other Services.

The Council is not related to or in co-operation with National Health Insurance, Voluntary Hospitals or Poor Law Work.

H.—Housing.

Since January, 1913, when systematic inspection was commenced, 1569 houses have been inspected. Defects were found to exist at 1159 and at 1096 of which the works required have been completed ; also 16 houses have been closed either by the Owner or by the Council.

Following the headings in the Memorandum I beg to report as follows :—

I. GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

(1) General Housing Conditions :

The total number of houses in the City is 2,805, out of which about 2,000 would be houses suitable for the working classes. Three houses for the working classes have been completed during the year.

(2) (a) Extent of shortage or excess of houses.

The shortage of houses is not very severe.

(b) Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage :

I anticipate the 22 houses which the Council will shortly have completed and the 30 houses for which a scheme is being prepared will meet the requirements of the district.

(3) Information as to any important changes in population during the year or anticipated in the future :

No important changes occurred during the year or are anticipated in the future.

II. OVERCROWDING.

(1) Extent : About 25 houses are now overcrowded.

(2) Causes: Insufficient accommodation and inability to procure a larger house.

(3) Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding.

When the houses now being erected by the Council are completed, overcrowding should cease.

(4) Principal cases of overcrowding during the year and action taken.

One serious case of overcrowding was reported during the year and it has been abated.

III. FITNESS OF HOUSES.

(1) (a) General standard of housing in the district :

The circumstances and situation of the City render the housing question one of no small difficulty, and factors are present which do not present themselves in more modern towns. There being a large number of very small cottages built without any idea as to present day requirements, but those properties have been con-

siderably improved through the work carried out under the Housing Town Planning Act, 1909. The conditions of the housing of the extremely poor has in many cases been aggravated by the carelessness and insanitary habits of the tenants themselves.

- (b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses :

Back houses, no through ventilation obtainable. Decayed condition of the property and impossibility to make the houses comply with the present day requirements.

- (c) How far defects are due to the lack of proper management and supervision by owners.

I find that the tendency of owners of property since the passing of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, is to wait until they receive a letter from the Housing Inspector before attending to certain defects.

- (2) General Action taken as regards unfit houses under :
 (a) the Public Health Acts } None until other
 (b) the Housing Acts } houses are provided.

- (3) Difficulties in remedying unfitness, etc. :

No great difficulty is anticipated now that labour is procurable.

- (4) Conditions, so far as they affect housing as regards water supply, etc. :

No difficulties are anticipated under this head.

IV. UNHEALTHY AREAS.

No unhealthy areas which could be dealt with under the Act of 1890, exist in this district.

V. BYE-LAWS RELATING TO HOUSES, TO HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS, AND TO TENTS, VANS, ETC.

- (1) As to working of existing bye-laws.

There are no bye-laws in the City relating to tents, vans, etc.

- (2) As to need for new bye-laws or revision of existing bye-laws.

There is no need for new bye-laws in this area.

VI. GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

No action is considered necessary under this heading.

VII. APPENDICIES.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st, December, 1920.

1. GENERAL.

(1) Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,200
(2) General Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.8
(3) Death Rate from Tuberculosis per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.06
(4) Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births	...	...	...	...	...	...	44.9
(5) Number of Dwelling Houses of all Classes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,805
(6) Number of Working Class Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,003
(7) Number of new Working Class Houses erected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

2. UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

1. INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	242
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	...	...	...	125
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(4) Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	65

II. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	49
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III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc. Act, 1919.

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit :—							
(a) by owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	47
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) by owners	43
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc. Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	Nil
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which closing Orders were determined, the Dwelling Houses having been rendered fit	Nil
(4) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(5) Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

3. UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a) Part 1, or (b) Part 2, of the Act of 1890 :—

(1) Name of Area	Nil
(2) Acreage	Nil
(3) Number of Working Class Houses in area	Nil
(4) Number of working class persons to be displaced	Nil
4. Number of houses not complying with the building Bye-laws erected with the consent of the Local Authority under Section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Acts, 1919	Nil
5. Staff engaged on Housing Work	
(a) Medical Officer of Health.	
(b) Sanitary & Housing Inspector.	

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR M. BARFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.

City of Chichester.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY AND HOUSING INSPECTOR

For the Year 1920.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CHICHESTER,

March, 1921.

*To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the City of Chichester.*

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you a Report showing the work carried out in my department during the year 1920.

Total number of inspections made during the above period...	...	614
Complaints received	... ..	9
Houses and premises inspected	... ..	242
Statutory notices served	... ..	Nil
Statutory notices complied with	... ..	Nil
Letters or preliminary notices sent	... ..	47
,, ,, ,, complied with	... ..	43
,, ,, ,, in hand	... ..	5
,, ,, ,, nothing done	... ..	2

DRAINS—

Houses previously undrained, or having privies or cesspool drainage, connected to the Council's sewer	... ..	7
Drains repaired	13
Drains unstopped	6

WATER CLOSETS —

Flushing apparatus provided	Nil
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MISCELLANEOUS—

Overcrowding reported	2
,, existed	1
,, abated	1
Various Nuisances abated	36
Defective Sinks removed	... ..	3
Privy pits abolished	... ..	2
Cesspools abolished	... ..	5
Cesspools emptied	... ..	13
Yards paved	... ..	4
Yard paving repaired	... ..	4
Offensive accumulations removed	... ..	8
Shallow Wells done away with	... ..	1
Town Water laid on	... ..	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTIONS—

Infectious cases reported	165
Letters re Infectious cases sent to School Teachers, etc. ...	254
Interviews with School Teachers	8
Houses in which Infectious Diseases occurred	126
Visits made to infected houses	302
Patients removed to Hospital	56
Houses disinfected	1
School disinfected	1
Rooms disinfected	70

COMMON LODGING HOUSES—

Number on the register	2
Number of Lodgers registered for	65
Number of visits of Inspection	12
Number of Letters re Limewashing	1
Number of Letters complied with	1
Number of defects found and remedied	3

SLAUGHTER HOUSES—

Number in the City registered	7
Number in the City Licensed	3
Number of Inspections made	15
Number of Letters re Limewashing	1
Number of Letters complied with	1
Number of defects found and remedied	Nil

GOVERNMENT AUTHORISED SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

The Slaughterhouse in Chapel Street taken over by the Ministry of food was closed at the end of June 1920, and for the six months during which it was open the following cattle, etc., were slaughtered :—

	70	Bullocks
	5815	Sheep
Total ...	<u>5885</u>	

Out of this number the following were found to be of inferior quality but not diseased and could only be used for manufacturing purposes :—

	15	Bullocks
	64	Sheep
Total	<u>79</u>	

The following carcasses were condemned for various reasons :—

	4 Cows
	24 Sheep
	—
Total	28
	—

Also 4,238 lbs. of Offal.

Since Meat Control came to an end, none of this poor quality or diseased cattle, etc., have so far as I am aware been slaughtered in the City. It is therefore evident that secret slaughtering on farms must be going on and the meat no doubt sent away to large towns for disposal. This in my opinion conclusively proves the necessity for the slaughtering of all cattle, etc., for human food being carried out in Public Abattoirs under proper supervision.

FOOD INSPECTION—

The following have been surrendered to me during the year and destroyed :—

12 Boxes of Kippers.
6 Ptarmigan.
8-6lbs. tins of Corned Beef.
1 Tin of Tomatoes.
34 Tins of Condensed Milk.
24 Tins of Sardines.
9 Boxes of Prunes.
5 Dozen Sheep's Kidneys (imported).

WORKSHOPS (EXCLUDING BAKEHOUSES)—

Number in the City registered	...	...	...	...	63
Number of visits of Inspection	...	...	...	...	43
Number of Letters sent re Limewashing	...	...	...	...	2
Number of letters complied with	...	...	...	...	2

BAKEHOUSES—

Number of Bakehouses on register at the beginning of 1920	22
Number of visits of inspection	53
Number of Letters re Limewashing	9
Number of Letters complied with	9

FACTORIES—

Number of visits of inspection	...	...	...	...	13
Number of letters re Limewashing	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Letters complied with	...	...	...	...	1

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS—

Number of Cowkeepers on register	...	...	...	...	4
Number of Cows in the City	...	...	...	...	70
Number of visits of inspection to Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	16
Number of letters re Limewashing	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Letters complied with	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Purveyors of Milk and Dairymen on the Register					14
Number of visits of inspection to Milkshops and Dairies	...				23
Number of Letters sent re Limewashing	...	...	...		Nil
Number of Letters complied with	...	...	...	...	Nil

OFFENSIVE TRADES (TANNERS, FELLMONGERS & BONE BOILERS)—

Number of Offensive Trades in the City	...	...	...	...	3
Number of visits of inspection	...	...	...	...	10
Number of Letters sent re Limewashing	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Letters complied with	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Defects found and remedied	...	...	...	...	1

HOUSING REPORT.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year 1920, under the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Acts, 1909 and 1919.

During the year 125 houses have been inspected, out of which 65 houses were inspected under Section 15.

Eighty-three informal notices or letters have been sent to the Owners or Agents for the Owners where work was required to be executed.

One hundred and fifty-two inspections have been made during the year in respect of work in progress.

The following is an analysis of the work carried out in the City under the Housing Acts, to the end of the year 1920 :

Total inspections, 1913 to 1919	...	...	...	...	1444
Total inspections in 1920	...	...	...	...	125
					— 1569

YEAR 1920.

Works completed at	...	...	...	...	49
No defects at or dealt with as Inspector of Nuisances					42
Work in progress at	...	...	...	...	2
Instructions given to Builders	...	...	...	...	14
Work partially completed at	...	...	...	...	6
Work not commenced at	...	...	...	...	18
					— 131

SUMMARY FROM THE REPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1913 TO 1919 (INCLUSIVE) :—

No defects at or dealt with as Inspector of Nuisances	368	
Referred to Surveyor	5	
Houses closed (8 orders determined in 1914)	14	
Houses closed by Owners	4	
Works completed at	1047	
	<hr/>	1438
Total ...		<hr/> 1569

Table showing defects found under each heading at the houses inspected during the year 1920.

1. WATER SUPPLY—	
From Shallow Wells at	1
2. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—	
No flushing apparatus to W.C's at	1
No ventilation to W.C's at	Nil
W.C. pans defective or cracked at	7
3. DRAINAGE—	
Defective at	1
No drainage at	2
4. LIGHT, AIR, DAMPNESS OR UNCLEANLINESS—	
Insufficient ventilation at	3
Rooms dirty at	11
Dampness at	6
5. CONDITIONS OF YARDS—	
Insanitary condition at	Nil
Defective paving at	20
6. REFUSE AND ASHES—	
7. DANGEROUS ROOMS—	
8. OTHER DEFECTS—	
Defective and Damp Floors at	Nil
Structural Defects at	23
Guttering to Roof defective at	11
No Guttering to Roofs at	4
No Sinks at	2
Defective Sinks at	13
Miscellaneous defects at	49

Table showing the number of defects remedied during the year 1920.

1. WATER SUPPLY—	
Town Water laid on to	1

2.	CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—						
	Flushing apparatus provided to W.C.'s at	...	...	...	...	...	4
	Ventilation provided to W.C's at	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Defective or cracked W.C. pans replaced	...	...	...	...	...	5
3.	DRAINAGE—						
	Defective drainage repaired at	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Houses connected to the sewer	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Houses drained to cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
4.	LIGHT, AIR, DAMPNESS AND UNCLEANLINESS—						
	Ventilation provided to Rooms at	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Rooms cleaned at	...	...	...	...	...	6
	Dampness remedied at	...	...	...	...	...	6
5.	CONDITION OF YARDS—						
	Paving provided to yards at	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Paving to yards repaired at	...	...	...	...	...	20
6.	REFUSE AND ASHES—						
7.	DANGEROUS ROOMS—						
8.	OTHER DEFECTS—						
	Defective or damp floors replaced by concrete or wood floors at						3
	Structural defects repaired at	...	...	...	...	...	13
	Defective Guttering to Roofs repaired at	...	...	...	...	...	7
	Guttering provided to Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	3
	Sinks provided at	...	...	...	...	...	7
	Defective Sinks replaced at	...	...	...	...	...	12
	Miscellaneous defects remedied at	...	...	...	...	...	27

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FREDK. C. NASH,

Sanitary and Housing Inspector.

INDEX.

	PAGE
Bacteriological Work	13, 17
Bakehouses	9, 24
Births and Birth Rate	4
Canal	6
Closet Accommodation	7
Common Lodging Houses	8, 23
Cowsheds	9, 25
Dairies	9, 25
Deaths and Death Rate... ..	4
Drainage and Sewage	7
Factories	24
Food	9, 23
Government Authorised Slaughter-house	10, 23
Hospital Accommodation	15
Housing	17, 25
Infectious Diseases	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23
Inspections	8, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25
Lavant Home	5
Local Acts	16
Maternity and Child Welfare	14
Meat Inspection	9
Meteorology	6
Milk Supply	9, 25
Natural and Social Conditions of the District	3
Notices Served	8
Offensive Trades	8, 25
Other Services	17
Physical Features	3
Poor Law	5
Population	4

INDEX--(continued).

PAGE

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations	8
Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases ...	10
Report of the Sanitary and Housing Inspector ...	22
Rivers and Streams	6
Royal West Sussex Hospital	5
Sanitary Administration of the District	15
Sanitary Circumstances of the District	6
Sanitary Inspection of the District	8
Scavenging	8
Sale of Food and Drugs Act	10
Schools	9
Sewage Works	7
Slaughter-houses... ..	9, 23
Soil of the City	4
Steam Disinfectors	16
Trades	5
Vital Statistics	4
Water Supply	6
Workhouse	5
Workshops	24



